## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

## Listing of Claims

1 (Currently amended): A slide drive device for a press machine having a slide, comprising: adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device;

said <u>adjusting</u> means for <u>adjusting said slide drive device being effective</u> to adjust a stroke of said slide;

said <u>adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device</u> and being pivotable about a center position to adjust said stroke;

said center position being one of a top and a bottom dead center position of said slide;

said <u>adjusting</u> means for <u>adjusting said slide drive device receiving provided to receive</u> a reciprocating motion;

a connecting link coupled to said adjusting means;

guiding means for guiding said slide drive device coupled to said connecting link; a connecting link;

said connecting link being effective to transfer said reciprocating motion to said guiding means for guiding said slide drive device;

said guiding means for guiding said slide drive device being effective to convert said reciprocating motion to a guiding displacement linearly guided displacement motion;

at least one first and second drive branching links in separately coupled to said guiding means for guiding said slide drive device;

at least one of a first and a second upper toggle means coupled respectively to the first and second drive branching links, and said first and second toggle means coupled separately to the slide;

said at least one upper toggle means for driving said slide in a cycle;

said at least one drive branching link transferring said guiding displacement to said one upper-toggle means; and

3

2 (Currently amended): A slide drive device, according to claim 1, further comprising: a connecting rod;

said connecting rod slidably guided by said adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device;

a crank shaft;

an eccentric part on said crank shaft;

said eccentric part having said reciprocating motion;

said connecting rod operably connects said eccentric part to said adjusting means-for adjusting said slide drive device; and

said connecting rod being effective to transfer said reciprocating motion to said adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device-where-by said slide operates through said cycle.

3. (Currently amended) A slide drive device, according to claim 2, wherein:

said adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device is operably affixed to said connecting rod;

said adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device is operable to guide said connecting rod along a specified trajectory; and

said adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device is pivotable about said center position to adjust said specified trajectory whereby said stroke is adjusted.

4. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 3, further comprising: said first and said second upper toggle means;

a rotation center in each said first and second upper toggle means;

Docket No.: 09637/000L305-US0

said rotation center permitting said first and second upper toggle means to rotate in an arc;

a first link connects each said rotation center to said at least one drive branching link;

said at least one drive branching link effective to transfer said guiding displacement to each said first and second upper toggle link means;

a first and a second lower toggle link;

a second link operably connects each said rotation center to each respective said lower toggle link; and

said first and second upper toggle means being effective to transfer said guiding displacement through said second links to respective said first and second lower toggle links and said slide whereby said slide operates through said cycle while maintaining a left and right balance.

- 5. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 4, further comprising:
- a guide board in said adjusting means;
- a groove in said guide board;
- a slider being slidable in said groove;
- a pin extending from said slider;
- said groove and said pin being pivotable about said center position;
- one end of a first and second end of said connecting rod;
- said one end operably fixed to said pin; and

said slider and said pin being effective to transfer said reciprocating motion to said connecting link and said guiding means.

- 6. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 5, further comprising:
- a base in said guiding means;
- a groove in said base;
- said groove being along a centerline between each said upper toggle means;
- a slider being slidable in said groove;
- said connecting link operably connected to said slider;

said connecting link transferring said reciprocating motion to said slider whereby said slider operates along said centerline;

5

said at least one drive branching link operably connected to said slider; and said at least one drive branching link and said slider transferring said guiding displacement to said first and second upper toggle means whereby said slide operates through said cycle while maintaining a left and right balance along said centerline.

- 7. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 6, further comprising;
- a trajectory pin;
- a trajectory forming link;
- said trajectory pin in said adjusting means;
- said trajectory pin opposite said center position on said guide board;
- said trajectory forming link operably connecting said trajectory pin to said one end of said connecting rod; and

said trajectory pin, said trajectory forming link, and said adjusting means being effective to convert said reciprocating motion of said one end to an arc-shaped trajectory.

8. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 6, wherein:

said adjusting means is operable at a position equidistant between said first and second upper toggle means;

said crank shaft and said eccentric part is below said adjusting means; and said guide means is above said adjusting means opposite said crank shaft.

- 9. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 6, further comprising:
- a first and second dynamic balancer means;
- a first and second retention link;

said first and second retention links operably connecting each respective said upper toggle means to each respective said dynamic balancer means; and

each said first and second dynamic balancer means and said first and second retention links having a shape and a weight adaptable to each respective said first and second upper toggle link and said slide whereby vibration is minimized when said first and second upper toggle means drive said slide in said cycle

- 10. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 5, further comprising:
- a first pin in each said first and second upper toggle means;

said first links connects said first pins to each respective said rotation center on each said first and second upper toggle means; and

said at least one drive branching link operably connecting said first and second upper toggle means at said first pins on a common inner tangent line to each said arc.

- 11. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 10, further comprising:
- a first and second end on said at least one drive branching link;

said first and second ends operably at said first pins on said first and second upper toggle means;

a connection position on said drive branching link between said first and second ends; and said connecting link operably connecting to said drive branching link at said connection position along said drive branching link..

- 12. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 11, further comprising:
- a first and second dynamic balancer means;
- a first and second retention link;

said first and second retention links operably connecting each respective said upper toggle means to each respective said dynamic balancer means; and

each said first and second dynamic balancer means and said first and second retention links having a shape and a weight adaptable to each respective said first and second upper toggle link and said slide whereby vibration is minimized when said first and second upper toggle means drive said slide in said cycle

Application No.: 09/846,703

13. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 12, further comprising:

said connecting link operably connects to said drive branching link at said connection position;

said connection position being equidistant said first and second ends; and said drive shaft and said adjusting means are above said first and second upper toggle means and said drive branching link.

14. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 12, further comprising:

said connecting link operably connects to said drive branching link at one of said first and second ends; and

said drive shaft and said adjusting means are below said first and second upper toggle means and said drive branching link.

15. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 12, further comprising:

said connecting link operably connects to said drive branching link at one of said first and second ends;

said drive shaft is below said first and second upper toggle means;

said adjusting means is above said first and second upper toggle means opposite said drive shaft; and

said guiding means is between said drive shaft and said adjusting means.

16. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 12, further comprising:

said connecting link operably connects to said drive branching link at one of said first and second ends;

said drive shaft above said first and second upper toggle means;

said adjusting means below said first and second upper toggle means opposite said drive shaft: and

said guiding means is between said drive shaft and said adjusting means.

17. (Currently amended) A slide drive device for a press machine having a slide, comprising:

adjusting means, for adjusting said slide drive device, having;

one of a top and a bottom dead center positions of said slide;

said means for adjusting said slide drive device permitting an adjustment of said slide;

said <u>adjusting</u> means for <u>adjusting said slide drive device</u> permitting <u>said an adjustment</u> of said slide without changing said one dead center position;

said adjustment of said slide changing said other dead center position of said slide;

said <u>adjusting</u> means for <u>adjusting said slide drive device</u> being pivotable to a specified angle to adjust a stroke of said slide; and

said <u>adjusting</u> means for adjusting said slide drive device transferring a sliding, reciprocating motion to said slide.

18. (Currently amended) A slide drive device, according to claim 17, further comprising: guiding means for guiding said slide drive device;

at least one of a-first and second upper-toggle means separately coupled to said guiding means;

said at least one upperfirst and second toggle means driving said slide in a cycle; and said guiding means for guiding said slide drive device being effective to transmit said adjustment of said slide to said one upperfirst and second toggle means whereby said stroke is adjusted without changing said other dead center position.

19. (Currently amended) A slide drive device, according to claim 18, further comprising: a center position on said <u>adjusting</u> means for <u>adjusting</u> said slide drive device; said center position being proximate said one dead center position;

said <u>adjusting</u> means for adjusting said slide drive device being operable about said center position to effect said adjustment of said slide.

20. (Currently amended) A slide drive device, according to claim 19, further comprising: a connecting rod coupled to said adjusting means;

said connecting rod on said means for adjusting said-slide drive device;

said connecting rod receiving a reciprocating motion and transmitting said reciprocating motion to said <u>adjusting</u> means-for-adjusting said slide drive device;

a connecting link coupled to said adjusting means;

said connecting link on said means for adjusting said slide drive device;

said connecting link being effective to transmit said reciprocating motion from said adjusting means for adjusting said slide drive device to said guiding means for guiding said slide drive device; and

said <u>guiding</u> means <u>for guiding said slide drive device</u> being effective to convert said reciprocating motion to a guiding displacement, whereby said slide operates in said cycle.

21. (Currently amended) A slide drive device, according to claim 20, further comprising:

at least one first and second drive branching links separately coupled to said guiding means;

said drive branching link being in said guiding means for guiding said slide drive device;

and

said <u>first</u> and <u>second</u> drive branching links being effective to transfer said guiding displacement to <u>one upperthe first</u> and <u>second</u> toggle links <u>respectively</u>, whereby said slide is driven in said stroke.

22. (Currently amended): A slide drive device, according to claim 21, wherein:

said <u>first and second</u> drive branching links <u>transmit</u> is <u>effective to transmit</u> said adjustment of said slide to said <u>one upper first and second</u> toggle links, whereby said slide is adjusted in said stroke.

23. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 1, wherein:

said adjusting means being a single, shared adjusting means on which the motion of each of said at least one drive branching link is dependent.

- 24. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 1, further comprising:
- said first and said second upper toggle means;
- a rotation center in each said first and second upper toggle means;
- said rotation center permitting said first and second upper toggle means to rotate in an arc;
- a first link connects each said rotation center to said at least one drive branching link;
- said at least one drive branching link effective to transfer said guiding displacement to each said first and second upper toggle link means;
  - a first and a second lower toggle link;
- a second link operably connects each said rotation center to each respective said lower toggle link; and

said first and second upper toggle means being effective to transfer said guiding displacement through said second links to respective said first and second lower toggle links and said slide whereby said slide operates through said cycle while maintaining a left and right balance.

- 25. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 2, further comprising:
- a guide board in said adjusting means;
- a groove in said guide board;
- a slider being slidable in said groove;
- a pin extending from said slider;
- said groove and said pin being pivotable about said center position;
- one end of a first and second end of said connecting rod;
- said one end operably fixed to said pin; and
- said slider and said pin being effective to transfer said reciprocating motion to said connecting link and said guiding means.
  - 26. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 1, further comprising:

- a first and second dynamic balancer means;
- a first and second retention link;

said first and second retention links operably connecting each respective said upper toggle means to each respective said dynamic balancer means; and

each said first and second dynamic balancer means and said first and second retention links having a shape and a weight adaptable to each respective said first and second upper toggle link and said slide whereby vibration is minimized when said first and second upper toggle means drive said slide in said cycle.

- 27. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 1, wherein said crank shaft and said adjusting means are above said first and second upper toggle means and said at least one drive branching link.
  - 28. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 1, further comprising:
  - a base in said guiding means;
  - a groove in said base;
  - said groove being along a centerline between each said upper toggle means;
  - a slider being slidable in said groove;
  - said connecting link operably connected to said slider;

said connecting link transferring said reciprocating motion to said slider whereby said slider operates along said centerline;

said at least one drive branching link operably connected to said slider; and

said at least one drive branching link and said slider transferring said guiding displacement to said first and second upper toggle means whereby said slide operates through said cycle while maintaining a left and right balance along said centerline.

29. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 17, wherein:

said adjusting means is a single, shared adjusting means on which the motion of each of at least one drive branching link is dependent.

30. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 22, further comprising:

said first and said second upper toggle means;

a rotation center in each said first and second upper toggle means;

said rotation center permitting said first and second upper toggle means to rotate in an arc;

a first link connects each said rotation center to said at least one drive branching link;

a first and a second lower toggle link;

a second link operably connects each said rotation center to each respective said lower toggle link; and

said first and second upper toggle means being effective to transfer said guiding displacement through said second links to respective said first and second lower toggle links and said slide whereby said slide operates through said cycle while maintaining a left and right balance.

31. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device, according to claim 20, further comprising:

a guide board in said adjusting means;

a groove in said guide board;

a slider being slidable in said groove;

a pin extending from said slider;

said groove and said pin being pivotable about said center position;

one end of a first and second end of said connecting rod;

said one end operably fixed to said pin; and

said slider and said pin being effective to transfer said reciprocating motion to said connecting link and said guiding means.

32. (Withdrawn) A slide drive device according to claim 18, further comprising:

a first and second dynamic balancer means;

a first and second retention link;

said first and second retention links operably connecting each respective said upper toggle means to each respective said dynamic balancer means; and

each said first and second dynamic balancer means and said first and second retention links having a shape and a weight adaptable to each respective said first and second upper toggle link and said slide whereby vibration is minimized when said first and second upper toggle means drive said slide in said cycle.

33. (currently amended) A slide drive device for a press machine having a slide, comprising:

an adjusting mechanism in said slide drive device;

one of having a top and a bottom dead center positions of said slide;

said adjusting mechanism permitting adjustment of said slide;

said adjusting mechanism permitting said an adjustment without changing said one dead center position;

said adjustment changing said other dead center position of said slide; and

said adjusting mechanism being pivotable about a center position to adjust a stroke of said slide.

34. (previously presented) A slide drive device, according to claim 21, wherein:

said means for adjusting said slide drive device being a single, shared means for adjusting said slide drive device on which the motion of each of said at least one drive branching link is dependent.

- 35. (previously presented) A slide drive device, according to claim 1, wherein said means for adjusting said slide drive device comprises a guide board with a slider that slides linearly while receiving said reciprocating motion.
- 36. (previously presented) A slide drive device, according to claim 17, wherein said means for adjusting said slide drive device comprises a guide board with a slider that slides linearly while transferring said sliding, reciprocating motion to said slide.
  - 37 (new): A slide drive device for a press machine having a slide, comprising:

an adjusting mechanism for adjusting a stroke of said slide;

- a connecting link, coupled to said adjusting mechanism, for transferring a reciprocating motion of said adjusting mechanism;
- a guiding mechanism, coupled to said connecting link, for converting the reciprocating motion of the adjusting mechanism into a linear motion;

first and second drive branching links, separately coupled to the guiding mechanism, for transferring the linear motion into a toggling motion;

first and second toggle links, respectively coupled to the first and second drive branching links, for being toggled by the drive branching links; and

a plunger coupled to the first and second toggle links, and said plunger coupled to the slider to convert the toggling motion into a stroking motion of the slider.

38 (new): A slide drive device for a press machine of claim 37, further comprising: first and second balancer links coupled to the first and second toggle links respectively;

first and second balancers connected to the first and second balancer links respectively such that when the first and second toggle links move the first and second balancer links, the first and second balancers move in an opposite direction of the slide.